



SENDING CHURCH

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*"To give light to them
that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of
death..." Luke 1:79*

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

April-May 2026

We are thankful for what the Lord is allowing us to do as we continue into this new year of ministry here in Kenya. The past few weeks have been very busy as we have divided our time between Kisii, Kisumu, and the Maasai villages. The Lord continues to open doors for teaching, training leaders, and sharing the Gospel in several areas.

Ilkerin – Growth and Changed Lives

Our monthly visits to Ilkerin are making good progress as we train the pastor and disciple the believers. Each visit brings new understanding from God's Word, and we are seeing people come to Christ regularly. Over the past two months, we have **baptized 22 new believers**.

One of the greatest blessings has been seeing entire families come to Christ. Recently, a local witch doctor was saved, his daughter was baptized, and this month his wife followed in baptism. We also saw Dorcas saved — the mother of Lemaiyan and Benjamin, who were saved last year — and **all three were baptized together**.

We have been witnessing to the father, who is still hesitant, but he is thankful that his family has found a church that has truly helped them. Please pray for him to be saved and to join his family in the church.

Lemaiyan and Benjamin have now enrolled in our Bible Certificate program. I will be traveling with them for mentoring, and we are praying that God will use them to help their pastor and take the Gospel into other villages.

Recently, while traveling, I shared a simple thought from **Romans 8:35–39**, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" When we came to the answer, "**Nothing**," Benjamin responded, "**Everyone, everywhere needs to understand this.**" It was a blessing to see him not only grasp the truth but desire to share it with others. **God is so good!**

Church Planting – Ebuyangu

We thank the Lord for the successful opening of **Glory Bible Baptist Church in Ebuyangu on April 26!** In the days leading up to the opening, pastors, Bible college students, and members from other churches worked together in visitation and outreach throughout the area.

During that week, **13 people trusted Christ**, and we had **100 in attendance for the first service**. We also saw **11 baptized and added to the church, along with 3 joining by transfer**. In addition, **13 local churches supported the effort** through visitation and offerings to help with the meeting.

It was a great encouragement to see so many working together to establish this new church. Please pray for **Pastor Ezekiel Arwa**, continued growth, for these new believers to be grounded in the Word, and for this church to become a strong witness in the community.

Vehicle Update

We are thankful to report that **\$35,000 has come in**, and we have been able to select a vehicle for the ministry. We have chosen a Land Cruiser 105, already equipped with **additional off-road and camping features** that will allow us to access more remote village areas effectively..

We remain deeply grateful for your faithful prayers and support. Every soul saved, every church planted, and every life changed is fruit that abounds to your account. May the Lord continue to bless you as we labor together in His harvest.

Serving Him,

Luke + Tonya Shelby

Luke & Tonya Shelby

Missionaries to Kenya

Prayer Requests

- Salvation for Lemaiyan and Benjamin's father
- New church started in Ebuyangu (April 26)
- Continued growth in the Maasai ministry
- Our travels to and from the USA for **Kay-Leigh's** college graduation in May/June
- **Caleb** as he begins full-time deputation in June